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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Monday, January 4, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room B , second floor of the Cannon Building
MINUTES APPROVED:	02/01/2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rochelle Mason, Professional Member, **President**, Presiding
John Mucha, Professional Member, **Vice President**
Sandra Bisgood, Public Member
Florienda Scott-Cobb, Professional Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General
David Mangler, Director
Sandra Wagner, Administrative Specialist III
Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist III

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kyla Teed, Public Member **Secretary**
Tara Donofrio, Public Member
Lori Scott, Professional Member

ALSO PRESENT

Tamika Culver, Dover Behavioral Health System
Ronna Glen
Dr. Marlene Saunders, NASW – DE
Tonya Saunders, Dover Behavioral Health System
Philip Thompson
Verity Watson, Division of Research

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed November 16, 2015 minutes for approval. Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of Applications to Sit for ASWB Exam

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Anna Bloomer. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for MarQuisha Dunston. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Sophie Namugenyi. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Julie White. Motion unanimously carried.

Ratification of Applications for Licensure by Reciprocity

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Michelle Reyes. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Mr. Mucha, to ratify the application for licensure by reciprocity for Brenda Wilson. Motion unanimously carried.

Review of Applications to Sit for ASWB Exam (Full Board Review Required)

Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Asia Jones. Motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Katherine Lusky. Motion unanimously carried.

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity (Full Board Review Required)

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to approve the application for licensure by reciprocity for Katherine Hoopes. Motion unanimously carried.

Review Request for Hardship Extension

The Board reviewed the submitted correspondence requesting a hardship extension from Jane Luke. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to grant a three month hardship extension, in order for Ms. Luke to obtain the required amount of CE's for the 2016 licensure period, contingent upon Ms. Luke submitting the appropriate monetary fees for such request. Motion unanimously carried.

Election of Officers

Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to maintain the current slate of Officers for the 2016 period. The officers consisting of: Ms. Mason as President, Mr. Mucha as Vice President, and Ms. Teed as Secretary. Motion unanimously carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Review Correspondence from NASW to Representative Brady

The Board reviewed the correspondence that was sent to Representative Brady, sent by Dr. Marlene Saunders from the NASW-DE voicing concerns and NASW-DE's opposition regarding the cancellation of the tentatively scheduled December 2015 public meeting of the Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners. It was expressed, that by cancelling the tentatively scheduled December Board meeting, it muted the voices of NASW-DE and the public, with respect to providing options. Additionally, the correspondence detailed NASW-DE's efforts to work with the Board regarding the Joint Sunset Committee recommendations and multi-level licensure. Lastly, Dr. Saunders' requested to meet with either Representative Brady and/or other members of the Joint Sunset Committee to discuss NASW-DE's point of view regarding multi-level licensure.

Ms. Mason advised the Board that the decision to cancel the tentatively scheduled December meeting was not a decision made by the Board.

Mr. Mangler advised the Board that it was his decision to cancel the tentatively scheduled December meeting, as there would have only been one item on the agenda, which was the discussion of the proposed bill. Mr. Mangler also reported that it was not a public meeting as a quorum of the Board was not in attendance, and that the state stakeholders did not request certain members of the Board to attend; as he requested that the elected officers attend the stakeholder group meeting. He reported that it is not unusual that a stakeholder meeting is considered non-public, and noted that the NASW-DE was afforded the same opportunity.

Ms. Mason opened the floor for Dr. Saunders to address the Board regarding the correspondence she submitted to Representative Brady. Dr. Saunders informed the Board that the letter was sent to Representative Brady because she was concerned that by cancelling the tentatively scheduled December meeting that it would be counterproductive of the role and function of the Board. Additionally by having a non-public meeting, it eliminated the possibility of everyone hearing the information at the same time. Mr. Thompson addressed the Board, and stressed that Dr. Saunders is highlighting the importance of collaboration.

Mr. Mangler informed the board that the two co-chairs of the Joint Sunset Committee are aware of the correspondence submitted by Dr. Saunders on behalf of the NASW-DE, as well as the reasons for holding a key stakeholder meeting. Additionally, the Board was made aware that the report was submitted to the Joint Sunset Committee, and the Joint Sunset Committee was informed that a draft bill will not be ready for the review in January.

Ms. Mason informed the members of the Board as well as the public that she was hesitant to meet with key stakeholders in a non-public setting, as she considers the Board one entity. Mr. Mucha reiterated what the Board was tasked with by the Joint Sunset Committee. Ms. Scott-Cobb voiced her dissatisfaction regarding the situation and how it was addressed.

Dr. Saunders and Mr. Mangler reported that they have not received any feedback from Representative Brady or the other members of the Joint Sunset Committee regarding the correspondence.

Sign Final Order Lifting Probation for Carl White

The Board reviewed the Order lifting probationary status for Carl White. Mr. Mucha affixed his signature to the Order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Joint Sunset Committee Recommendations

Ms. Kelly provided the Board with an overview of the state stakeholders meeting that was held in December. Ms. Kelly reported that one of the largest issues from state stakeholders, regarding the draft bill, is the

grandfathering timeframe. The current draft does not allow the Office of Management and Budget enough time to make any appropriate adjustments.

Ms. Kelly reported that the state stakeholders were unaware of the NY exemption language that the Board had included in the draft. The current draft would conflict with labor laws, and in addition create potential conflicts with unions. Ms. Kelly advised the Board that employment requirements cannot change for merit employees who were hired under a certain set of employment requirements. It was reported during the state stakeholder meeting, that the Union representatives are pushing back against the proposed bill regarding the requirement to remove "social worker" from a job title. Ms. Kelly highly urged the Board to consider changing the exemption and grandfathering language in the draft bill.

Ms. Mason reported that there was a suggestion that the Board modify the draft bill to exempt the State until the implementation date, and then slowly phase the State in. Mr. Manger advised the Board that the key stakeholders from the State, will revisit previous research and will compare those results with the newly added exemption list to see how many employees would be impacted with the current draft.

Dr. Saunders and Mr. Thompson voiced their concerns regarding this process as well as the State stakeholder's concerns. Mr. Mangler addressed the Board, and advised them, that the State stakeholders support multi-level licensure, but the concern is how to get it done. He suggested that other stakeholders or members of the Board submit suggestions on a potential solution. Mr. Mangler reported that the stakeholders would be submitting reports to the Board regarding the number of employees who will be impacted by the current draft by the end of January.

Ms. Mason suggested that it would be helpful to invite the stakeholders to the upcoming regularly scheduled meetings for further discussion.

Ms. Watson addressed the Board and informed the members that the Joint Sunset Committee will be meeting on January 13, 2016 at 11:30 in legislative hall.

Ms. Scott-Cobb requested that a list of tentative dates to hold at least one regularly scheduled Board meetings in New Castle County and one in Sussex County be prepared for the Board to review.

Review Final Draft of Telepractice Regulations

The Board reviewed the most recent draft of the proposed telepractice regulations. No action was taken at this time, as there was not an affirmative vote of four members.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Williams reported that she has accepted a new position within the Division of Professional Regulation, and advised the Board that pertinent Board meeting documentation may be coming from her co-workers during the transition period.

Ms. Mason informed the Board that a professional member will review the applications that can be fast-tracked on a quarterly basis. Mr. Mucha will review the applications for the 1st Quarter; Ms. Scott-Cobb will review the applications during the 2nd Quarter, Ms. Scott will review the applications during the 3rd Quarter, and Ms. Mason will review the applications during the 4th quarter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Saunders addressed the Board to express the NASW-DE's support for the proposed statutory revisions that will implement multi-tier licensure within the state of Delaware. She expressed her optimism for open communication amongst all stakeholders in future meetings.

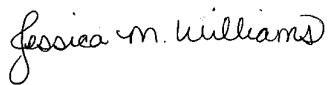
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 1, 2016 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room B.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica M. Williams".

Jessica M. Williams, Administrative Specialist II
Delaware Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners